IN THE CLAIMS:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously amended) A chemical composition used to stimulate weight loss in a patient, consisting essentially of:

acarbose; and

a sustained release matrix, wherein said acarbose and sustained release matrix are combined to form a mixture.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 15, wherein said acarbose is about 20% to about 40% by weight of said composition.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 15, wherein said acarbose is present in an amount of about 25mg to about 300mg.

18. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 15, further consisting essentially of a filler.

19. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 18, further consisting essentially of a glidant.

20. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 19, further consisting essentially of a lubricant.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 19, wherein said glidant is selected from the group consisting of colloidal silica and precipitated silica.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 20, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearyl fumarate, and metal stearates.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 20, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, zinc stearate, calcium stearate, and mixtures thereof.

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10 24. (Original) The composition of claim 15, wherein said sustained release matrix is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

11 25. (Original) The composition of claim 15, wherein said composition is covered with a coating.

12 26. (Original) The composition of claim 25, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating.

13 27. (Original) The composition of claim 25, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating in combination with ethyl cellulose.

28-42. (Canceled)

14 43. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient to stimulate weight loss comprising administering an sustained release acarbose formulation to the patient, wherein such formulation does not include a lipase inhibitor.